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Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01
SP-02 SS-15 HA-05 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00
ISO-00 /109 R

DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:RLBARRY:HM
APPROVED BY IO:GBHELMAN
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----------098719 030500Z /23
O 030311Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 054713

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, SF, WA

SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: DATE OF WITHDRAWAL OF SOUTH AFRICAN
FORCES

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REF: A. CAPE TOWN 395, B. USUN 720

1. YOU SHOULD PROCEED TO CONVEY THE TALKING POINTS CONTAINED IN REF B TO BOTHA AS SOON AS YOUR WESTERN COLLEAGUES HAVE INSTRUCTIONS. IF BOTHA RAISES WITHDRAWAL QUESTION, YOU SHOULD INDICATE THAT YOU DO NOT HAVE INSTRUCTIONS ON THIS POINT AS YET.

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2. WE CONSIDER FORMULATION CONTAINED IN REF A AN IMPROVE-
MENT OVER THE BRITISH PROPOSAL. HOWEVER, WE CONTINUE TO
BELIEVE THAT ANY WRITTEN MODIFICATION OF OUR LANGUAGE ON
WITHDRAWAL WOULD RAISE A RED FLAG TO SWAPO AND THE FRONT
LINE, WHO MIGHT SEE IT AS IMPLICIT WESTERN APPROVAL FOR
KEEPING THE SOUTH AFRICAN MILITARY IN NAMIBIA UNDER AN
INTERNAL SETTLEMENT.

3. WE RECOGNIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF GETTING OVER THIS
PARTICULAR HURDLE WITH SOUTH AFRICA AND THE CONTACT GROUP
AND SUGGEST THAT TWO OPTIONS FOR DEALING WITH THE QUESTION
BE RAISED SOONEST WITH CONTACT GROUP.

A. OUR PREFERRED SOLUTION WOULD BE TO ELABORATE ON THE
WITHDRAWAL QUESTION ORALLY BUT NOT IN WRITING. TALKING
POINTS COULD BE PREPARED FOR THE FIVE WHICH WOULD RE-
ASSURE SAG THAT IN THE CONTEXT OF AN INTERNATIONALLY-
ACCEPTED SETTLEMENT THERE COULD BE NO LEGITIMATE OBJECTION
TO CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY INVITING SOUTH AFRICAN FORCES TO
REMAIN IN NAMIBIA. FIVE COULD GO FURTHER AND ASSURE SAG
THAT WESTERN SC MEMBERS WOULD NOT SUPPORT SC ACTION CON-
DEMNING SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT PROVIDED THAT TRANSITION IN
NAMIBIA MET REQUIREMENTS OF SC RES 385.

B. AS A FALLBACK, WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO AGREE TO
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CAPE TOWN'S FORMULATION (REF A) PROVIDED THAT THE LANGUAGE
WAS FIRST TRIED OUT ON --AND EXPLAINED TO-- NYERERE.
HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE THAT SUCH AN APPROACH TO NYERERE WOULD
HAVE TO BE IN THE CONTEXT OF A COMPLETE REVIEW OF THE
CURRENT STATE OF PLAY ON NAMIBIA NEGOTIATIONS, INCLUDING
AN EXPLANATION OF ALL THE CLARIFICATIONS WE ARE SEEKING
AGREEMENT ON.

CHRISTOPHER

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